

Amendment under Article 19

CLAIMS

1. An iron-based sintered body with a rustproof function, characterized in comprising a layer containing 0.01 to 5at% of indium on the surface of the iron-based sintered body.
2. (Delete)
3. A manufacturing method of an iron-based sintered body having iron as its principal component, characterized in that sintering is performed in a gas atmosphere containing indium vapor or indium.

The Statement under Article 19 (1) PCT

Claim 2 "An iron-based sintered body with a rustproof function, characterized in containing 0.01 to 5at% of indium throughout the sintered body" was deleted.

The cited (X) reference 1 (Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. H4-176801) objected that the above claim 2 does not have novelty and inventive step, but since the cited reference 1 was deleted, there is no objection to the claim 2.

Other two references (Japanese Patent Publication No. S64-1522 and Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 2003-3201) are categorized A, and are different invention from the present invention.

The present invention relates to an iron-based sintered body, as well as the manufacturing method thereof, capable of easily and largely improving the rust-prevention effect without having to hardly change the conventional process, and have superior effect of improving the rust-prevention effect on a sintered body such as the application of sintered mechanical components, sintered oil retaining bearings, metal graphite brushes and so on.